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3415 South Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach, FL. 33405 Tel. 561.835.1319 Fax 561.835.1379

A large and important French 18th century Louis XV period Boulle Cartel clock, signed Le Faucheur, A Paris. The clock has the original tortoiseshell with brass inlay and ormolu mounts. Raised by a fanciful base with front maiden ormolu mounts and bottom scrolled acanthus leaf designed finial. The large case with S scrolled ormolu supports and joined by an ormolu frieze with a central cabochon. The large signed enamel face is within a richly decorated glass and ormolu door. Above is the bonnet encasing the original bells with a top ormolu cherub feeding his animal. With an intricate foliate scrolled inlaid design of tortoiseshell and brass throughout.

The movement was made by Alexander Lefaucheur (d. after 1772), who is known to have made very fine and complicated movements housed in high quality cases. Born at Evreux he was received as a maître in October 1729. In March 1745 he was appointed Valet de Chambre-Horloger Ordinaire du Roi to Louis XV and was one of the few to hold that position and also to have a shop during the king's reign. In 1749 he was apointed Gouverneur du Grand Horloge du Palais. His work can be seen at Waddesdon Manor, Buckinghamshire, the Walters Art Gallery Baltimore, the Patrimonio Nacional Spain, the Musèe Historique at Orlèans, and the Musèe National des

Techniques in Paris.















